



North Dakota

# FARM REPORTER

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## SMALL GRAINS ANNUAL SUMMARY

**N**orth Dakota Spring wheat production for 2008 is estimated at 246 million bushels, up 5 percent from last year. The area harvested for grain, at 6.40 million acres, is down 100,000 acres from 2007. The yield is 38.5 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from last year.

Durum wheat production is estimated at 42.3 million bushels, down 4 percent from 2007. Harvested acres, at 1.69 million, are up 16 percent from last year.

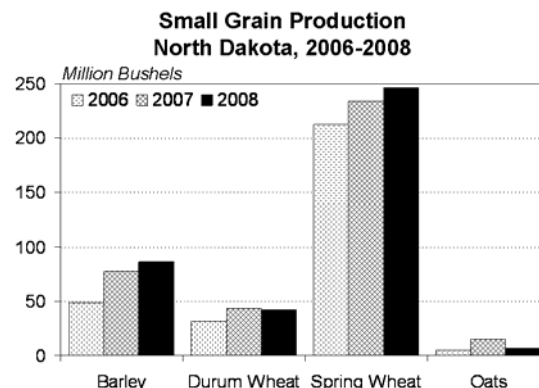
The yield is 25.0 bushels per acre, down 5.0 bushels from 2007.

Barley production is estimated at 86.2 million bushels, up 11 percent from 2007. Area harvested for grain, at 1.54 million acres, is up 11 percent from last year. Average yield is 56.0 bushels per acre, equal to last year.

**U**nited States Spring wheat production for 2008 is estimated at 547 million bushels, up 14 percent from last year. Harvested area is 13.5 million acres, up 4 percent from 2007. The U.S. yield is 40.5 bushels per acre, up 3.5 bushels from last year.

Durum wheat production totaled 84.9 million bushels, up 18 percent from 2007. Grain area harvested is 2.58 million acres, up 22 percent from the previous year. The U.S. yield is estimated at 32.8 bushels per acre, down 1.1 bushels from 2007.

Barley production is estimated at 239 million bushels, 13 percent above 2007. Average yield per acre, at 63.6 bushels, is up 3.2 bushels from last year. The area harvested for grain is estimated at 3.77 million acres, up 7 percent from a year ago.



## Small Grains Annual Summary: Area Planted and Harvested North Dakota and United States, 2007 and 2008

Crop	North Dakota				United States			
	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres
Barley	1,470	1,650	1,390	1,540	4,020	4,234	3,508	3,767
Oats	460	320	260	130	3,760	3,217	1,505	1,395
Rye <sup>1</sup>					1,376	1,260	289	269
Wheat, All	8,595	9,230	8,405	8,640	60,433	63,047	51,011	55,685
Winter	465	630	445	550	44,987	46,181	35,952	39,614
Durum	1,480	1,800	1,460	1,690	2,149	2,731	2,112	2,584
Spring	6,650	6,800	6,500	6,400	13,297	14,135	12,947	13,487

<sup>1</sup> Published at U.S. level only.

## Small Grains Annual Summary: Yield and Production North Dakota and United States, 2007 and 2008

Crop	Unit	North Dakota				United States			
		Yield		Production		Yield		Production	
		2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
				1,000	1,000			1,000	1,000
Barley	Bu	56.0	56.0	77,840	86,240	60.4	63.6	211,825	239,498
Oats	Bu	59.0	51.0	15,340	6,630	60.9	63.5	91,599	88,635
Rye <sup>1</sup>	Bu					27.4	29.7	7,914	7,979
Wheat, All	Bu	35.7	36.0	300,050	311,200	40.5	44.9	2,066,722	2,499,524
Winter	Bu	50.0	41.0	22,250	22,550	42.2	47.2	1,515,989	1,867,903
Durum	Bu	30.0	25.0	43,800	42,250	33.9	32.8	71,686	84,877
Spring	Bu	36.0	38.5	234,000	246,400	37.0	40.5	479,047	546,744

<sup>1</sup> Published at U.S. level only.

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## AGRICULTURAL PRICES

### North Dakota

The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in September is 229 percent of the 1990-1992 base. This is up 24 percent from last year and 78 percent above two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 251 percent of the base, is up 27 percent from September.

**Index Numbers of Farm Prices  
North Dakota and United States, September 2008**

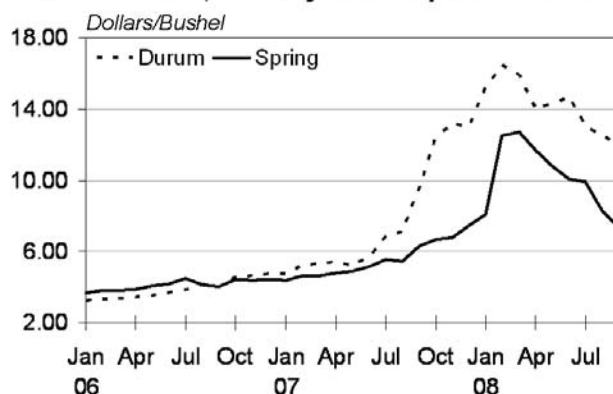
Indexes and Ratios	North Dakota			United States		
	Sept 2007	Aug 2008	Sept 2008	Sept 2007	Aug 2008	Sept 2008
<b>Prices Received</b>			(1990-92 = 100)			
All Farm Products	185	235	229	140	156	154
Crops	197	272	251	142	177	174
Food Grains	256	324	291	216	258	237
Feed Grains & Hay	180	277	239	150	226	222
Oil Bearing Crops <sup>1</sup>	175	266	268	131	228	189
Potatoes & Dry Beans <sup>2</sup>	136	145	182	105	195	165
Livestock and Products	129	118	126	138	137	134
Meat Animals	128	113	124	121	130	125
Dairy Products	146	148	146	167	141	138
Other Livestock Products <sup>3</sup>	130	129	129	149	151	149
<b>Prices Paid</b>	NA	NA	NA	162	192	194
<b>Ratio<sup>4</sup></b>	NA	NA	NA	86	81	79

<sup>1</sup> Includes non-oil sunflower. <sup>2</sup> North Dakota includes sugarbeets. <sup>3</sup> United States excludes wool. <sup>4</sup> Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid. NA=Not applicable.

### United States

The September All Farm Products Index is 154 percent of its 1990-92 base, down 1 percent from the August index but 10 percent above the September 2007 index. The All Crops Index is 174, down 2 percent from August but 23 percent above September 2007.

**Durum & Spring Wheat: Prices Received  
North Dakota, January 2006-September 2008**



**Prices Received by Farmers  
North Dakota and United States, September 2008**

Item	Unit	North Dakota			United States			Effective U.S. Parity Price Sept 2008
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary	
		Sept 2007	Aug 2008	Sept 2008	Sept 2007	Aug 2008	Sept 2008	
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Wheat, All	Bu	6.83	8.53	7.76	6.76	7.64	6.91	13.80
Durum	Bu	9.50	12.50	12.00	8.98	12.40	11.90	NA
Spring	Bu	6.32	8.27	7.40	6.26	8.22	7.38	NA
Winter	Bu	5.92	7.37	6.95	6.89	7.31	6.63	NA
Corn	Bu	3.15	4.87	4.80	3.28	5.26	5.17	8.70
Oats	Bu	2.23	2.95	2.85	2.47	3.15	2.92	5.66
Barley, All	Bu	3.86	5.12	4.85	4.05	5.11	4.83	9.51
Feed	Bu	3.88	4.53	4.00	4.47	4.55	4.28	NA
Malting	Bu	3.85	5.77	5.30	3.74	5.27	5.10	NA
Sunflower, All	Cwt	17.80	27.80	24.40	17.70	27.70	24.60	43.40
Oil	Cwt	17.40	26.70	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-oil	Cwt	18.00	30.40	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Baled Hay, All <sup>1</sup>	Ton	54.00	76.00	79.00	127.00	165.00	161.00	NA
Alfalfa <sup>1</sup>	Ton	58.00	83.00	85.00	135.00	180.00	176.00	NA
Other <sup>1</sup>	Ton	40.00	60.00	62.00	111.00	126.00	122.00	NA
Canola	Cwt	15.00	22.30	20.50	15.00	22.30	20.50	39.50
Flaxseed	Bu	9.56	16.50	15.70	9.55	16.50	15.70	23.30
Soybeans	Bu	7.73	12.20	11.40	8.15	12.80	11.70	21.50
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	21.70	35.50	36.30	24.50	38.00	39.10	70.00
Navy	Cwt		36.80	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pinto	Cwt	21.80	36.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Potatoes, All	Cwt	6.35	NA	7.35	5.81	11.33	9.08	21.40
Fresh <sup>3</sup>	Cwt	8.25	NA	NA	7.84	24.93	NA	NA
Processing	Cwt	5.85	NA	NA	5.34	5.56	NA	NA
Beef Cattle	Cwt	93.80	83.10	90.50	93.10	96.10	94.90	263.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	107.00	102.00	102.00	98.30	100.00	99.50	NA
Cows	Cwt	47.00	57.00	56.00	49.30	57.40	56.00	NA
Calves	Cwt	123.00	116.00	116.00	126.00	116.00	116.00	382.00
Sheep	Cwt	25.00	19.00	NA	26.70	26.30	NA	121.00
Lambs	Cwt	105.00	103.00	NA	99.00	99.60	NA	300.00
Hogs	Cwt	47.90	54.40	NA	46.80	60.60	53.70	144.00

<sup>1</sup> Alfalfa, other and all hay are preliminary prices only. <sup>2</sup> Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms. <sup>3</sup> Fresh market prices only, includes table stock. NA=Not applicable.

## GRAIN STOCKS

### North Dakota

All wheat stored in positions on September 1, 2008 totaled 239 million bushels. This is up 5 percent from a year ago. All wheat stocks include Durum, spring and winter wheat. The June-August disappearance is 101 million bushels, down 24 percent from the same period in 2007.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions totaled 32.8 million bushels, down 10 percent from a year ago. The June-August disappearance is 12.7 million bushels, down 32 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Corn stocks in all positions totaled 26.1 million bushels, up from 16.5 million bushels last year and from 17.3 million bushels on September 1, 2006. Disappearance during the quarter totaled 43.5 million bushels, up from 17.3 million bushels last year.

Soybean stocks in all positions totaled 4.65 million bushels, down from last year's record high of 18.9 million bushels. The disappearance of 9.25 million bushels for the quarter was up from 6.45 million bushels a year ago.

### United States

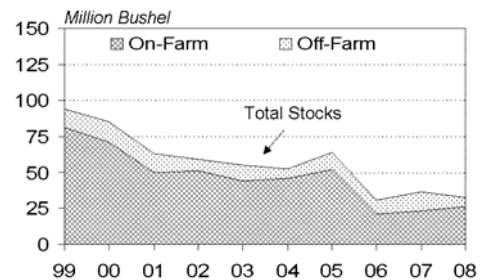
All wheat stored in all positions on September 1, 2008 totaled 1.86 billion bushels, up 8 percent from a year ago. The June - August 2008 indicated disappearance is 949 million bushels, up 18 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions on September 1, 2008 totaled 59.0 million bushels, down 16 percent from a year ago. The June - August 2008 indicated disappearance of 34.2 million bushels is up 51 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Old crop corn stocks in all positions on September 1, 2008 totaled 1.62 billion bushels, up 25 percent from September 1, 2007. Of the total stocks, 500 million bushels are stored on farms, up 9 percent from a year earlier.

Old crop soybeans stored in all positions on September 1, 2008 totaled 205 million bushels, down 64 percent from September 1, 2007. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 47.0 million bushels, down 67 percent from a year ago.

**Durum Wheat Stocks  
North Dakota, September 1, 1999-2008**



**Stocks: By Position, Current and Previous Quarter  
North Dakota and United States, 2007-2008<sup>1</sup>**

Crop	Date	North Dakota			United States		
		On Farm	Off Farm <sup>2</sup>	Total All Positions	On Farm	Off Farm <sup>2</sup>	Total All Positions
		1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels
Wheat, All	Sept 1, 2007	140,000	87,200	227,200	495,000	1,221,927	1,716,927
	June 1, 2008	9,300	19,350	28,650	25,635	280,183	305,818
	Sept 1, 2008	160,000	79,300	239,300	635,000	1,221,576	1,856,576
Durum Wheat <sup>3</sup>	Sept 1, 2007	23,500	13,000	36,500	34,700	35,764	70,464
	June 1, 2008	1,800	1,450	3,250	2,350	5,938	8,288
	Sept 1, 2008	26,500	6,300	32,800	36,200	22,799	58,999
Barley	Sept 1, 2007	40,000	17,200	57,200	105,600	83,095	188,695
	June 1, 2008	3,300	13,500	16,800	9,950	58,273	68,223
	Sept 1, 2008	46,000	18,600	64,600	127,070	80,369	207,439
Oats	Sept 1, 2007	11,000	760	11,760	53,650	34,710	88,360
	June 1, 2008	2,700	760	3,460	16,100	50,674	66,774
	Sept 1, 2008	7,000	560	7,560	52,800	66,275	119,075
Corn	Sept 1, 2007	8,800	7,700	16,500	460,100	843,547	1,303,647
	June 1, 2008	40,000	29,600	69,600	1,970,900	2,057,117	4,028,017
	Sept 1, 2008	7,200	18,900	26,100	499,950	1,124,200	1,624,150
Soybeans	Sept 1, 2007	7,700	11,200	18,900	143,000	430,810	573,810
	June 1, 2008	6,600	7,300	13,900	226,600	449,543	676,143
	Sept 1, 2008	1,700	2,950	4,650	47,000	158,034	205,304
All Sunflower	Sept 1, 2007	10,700	154,300	165,000	26,635	275,365	302,000
	Mar 1, 2008	294,000	392,800	686,800	392,305	634,711	1,027,016
	Sept 1, 2008	21,300	146,300	167,600	32,220	232,461	264,681
Oil Sunflower	Sept 1, 2007	6,000	58,000	64,000	19,305	109,227	128,532
	Mar 1, 2008	250,000	285,600	535,600	331,380	463,490	794,870
	Sept 1, 2008	16,500	103,500	120,000	26,310	149,445	175,755
Non-oil Sunflower	Sept 1, 2007	4,700	96,300	101,000	7,330	166,138	173,468
	Mar 1, 2008	44,000	107,200	151,200	60,925	171,221	232,146
	Sept 1, 2008	4,800	42,800	47,600	5,910	83,016	88,926
Mustard <sup>4</sup>	Sept 1, 2007	---	---	---	---	---	8,478
	Sept 1, 2008	---	---	---	---	---	6,165
Safflower <sup>4</sup>	Sept 1, 2007	---	---	---	---	---	10,020
	Sept 1, 2008	---	---	---	---	---	22,341

<sup>1</sup> Corn, soybean, sunflower, safflower and mustard stocks are old crop grains on hand September 1 from 2007 and earlier crop years. Small grain stocks are from all crop years, including 2008. <sup>2</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. <sup>3</sup> Included in all wheat.

<sup>4</sup> Estimates published at the U.S. level only.

Balancing Nutrition, Participation, and Cost in the National School Lunch Program

- ◆ Schools face the dual constraints of meeting nutrition requirements and covering costs.
- ◆ The free-meal subsidy covers most of the per meal cost, but the price paid by most paying students covers only half of the per meal cost.
- ◆ School foodservice managers say that to appeal to students and raise revenues, they need to offer less nutritious a la carte foods and vending snacks.

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) provides federally subsidized meals to more than 30 million children each school day. Recently, reported high rates of obesity and overweight among children have focused attention on the nutritional quality of school lunches. But this attention has raised another fundamental question: Can schools meet the program’s nutrition goals while covering costs, especially in times of rising food prices?

School districts are responsible for providing school meals. They receive a per meal subsidy and free agricultural commodities from USDA to help operate school lunch programs. Schools also get revenues from NSLP meal sales to students who are not eligible for free meals. The costs of running the program can exceed these two revenue sources, and schools often turn to other funding or food sales to make up the difference. For many schools, calls to raise nutrition standards could mean higher costs. Some schools say that to satisfy students and keep up revenues, they may need to offer foods of lower nutritional quality.

While nationally representative data are not available, several case studies have found that schools can keep their budgets in the black while still serving nutritious lunches. Some have succeeded by reducing costs, and others have raised revenues through increased student participation. And schools have found creative ways to make healthy food appealing to students. Federal nutrition guidelines, meal reimbursement, and commodity donations can help schools meet their objectives, although variation in food prices and nutrition goals present added challenges.

Source: *Amber Waves*, USDA-ERS, September 2008

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